THE WOMAN'S

DREADNOUGHT

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A PRISONER OF WAR: By Annalise Ruegg

On the outbreak of War, I was in Australia. The Australian newspapers declared that Germany alone had desired the War. Australians were therefore anxious to send troops to protect Mother England, and hatred against Germany grew apace.

The love of mankind was greater than the love of their own country to but few people, and one of these was the wife of an English Colonel, Mrs. Emily Paul. Speaking to a great crowd of people, she said:—

Australians, you are ignorant, and as an Australian I can tell you so. You are sending 10,000 of your sons to fight an enemy who has helped us to build up our country, for the Germans have been among our best pioneers. You would do better to send only ten soldiers to kill the diplomats who have made this War!"

Someone in the crowd interrupted: "Remember, it is dangerous to talk unpatriotically now!"

But the courageous woman answered: "I prefer to die than to be a coward!"

Soon after War broke out I left Australia for Europe on board the English emigrant ship *Orontes*. At Melbourne, great crowds of Volunteers were marching through the streets amid the cheering of the populace. There was more Jingoism than in Sydney, and the police were watching the windows of the German Club. In Adelaide, where many Germans live, it was as quiet as in peace time. In the port of Fremantle many German cargo boats were lying. A policeman said: "These are the last German boats we shall endure here."

We went *vid* picturesque Ceylon, which looked as it always does, to Madras, in Southern India. I was met by a German Missionary, who took me to his station, about 27 miles from Madras. Whilst I was there, one lovely evening in November, 1914, I was out looking at the stars when I was terrified by the noise of a terrific explosion. The *Emden* was bombarding the forts of Madras. The fire, mounting up to the sky, seemed to me both magnificent and horrible. Next day crowds of Indians came from Madras talking of the *Emden* as the "God of War." The Indians have a vivid imagination, but much common sense, and one woman complained that one of the Missionaries, who had taught the Indians "Thou shalt not kill; thou shalt love thine enemies as thyself," had become a Volunteer.

I decided to return to Ceylon, but was arrested at Danushkodi because I had no permit to visit Ceylon. An Englishman protested that the dusky policeman ought not to imprison me, a European woman, in Danushkodi, where no Europeans lived, but the policeman said that he must do his duty, and I was imprisoned in Danushkodi for five days, until I obtained a permit. I was not distressed by my imprisonment, though I had to sleep without a bed on the floor, as the Indians do.

THE FLAT ROOF AT THE MOTHERS' ARMS.
More Subscriptions Needed.

Afterwards I took a Japanese ship to Marseilles. The captain would not allow the German-Swiss people on board to speak their own language, in case the other passengers should object, and I was advised not to be seen reading a German book. One of my countrymen gave me Queen Victoria's Memoirs, as something that no one could complain of, but in it I read much of Germany and Germans, and of how happy Victoria was with her "barbarian." One of the Swiss passengers was told that she must not take with her to Marseilles anything written in German, and she was obliged to throw all her love letters in the sea.

I shall never forget my journey from Marseilles to Geneva. The train was full of unhappy soldiers going to Lyons. I spoke with them, and found them to be kind hearted men who did not want to murder others. They said, "We must go to fight the Germans because we are compelled." I did not hear a single French soldier speak with hatred of the Germans.

In August, 1915, I went to Kempten, in Bavaria, to bring one of my little nephews back to Switzerland. A friend whom I visited there had five French prisoners in his house during the summer. He praised their intelligence, their industry and kindness. "They were friends," he said, "not enemies." He showed me a photograph of himself and them, saying: "I wish I could know how my Frenchmen are now." When I was in the train for Lechfeld, some German soldiers got in at a station near Buchloe, bringing with them a Russian prisoner who had escaped and had been recaptured in the forest. The unfortunate prisoner had evidently suffered great privations, and had only some rags upon him. I happened to have some sweets in my pocket, and I asked the German guards whether I might give them to the Russian prisoner. The poor man seemed to be so glad to have them, and I was

(Continued on page 499, col. 2.)

THE HUMAN SUFFRAGE CAMPAIGN

Get the Human Suffrage resolution signed by every organisation with which you are concerned!

This meeting calls on the Government to introduce not a Registration Bill, but a Franchise Bill to give a vote to every woman and man over 21.

Since the last list we published, we learn that the above resolution has been passed by the Glasgow Trades Council, the Glasgow Housing Association, the Bridgeton I.L.P., the I.L.P. Federation for Scotland, the Central Scottish Council, B.S.P., the Glasgow Herald League, the Glasgow Branch of the United Suffragists, the Ruthergien I.L.P., the Glasgow Branch Amalgamated Toolmakers, the Hull Transport Workers' Federation, numbering 10,000 workers.

Demonstration

JUNE 25th, 3 p.m.

GLASGOW GREEN

to demand

A Vote for every Woman and Man over 21

Speakers:

Mrs. BOYCE Mrs. CRAWFORD
COUNCILLOR DOLLAN
HUGH GENNELL, Bridgeton I.L.P
MALCOLM McCOLL,
Glasgow Trades Council
T. LYONS, C.W.C.
SYLVIA PANKHURST
COUNCILLOR WHEATLEY

Two of our members, Mrs. Withers and Mr. H. W. Steven, have started a snowball system of DREADNOUGHT selling. They get a group of friends each to take six DREADNOUGHTS a week and to send them to other friends for a few weeks until they are willing to take in their turn six DREADNOUGHTS each, to send to other friends. This is an excellent plan. Who will follow it?

THE VOTE MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

I am very glad the DREADNOUGHT is still labouring at the suffrage question. It is now, and will be after the War is over, more important than it has ever been before, that every man and woman in England should be represented in the Government of the nation. OLIVE SCHREINER.

THE NEED FOR THE VOTE IS URGENT

If ever the people of this country had occasion to use the vote wisely it is now. What with Prussianism at home and Prussianism abroad, the growing causes for discontent, the growing power of the capitalist-militarist oligarchy in this country, and the serious problems the War is accumulating which demand immediate attention, the need for the vote is urgent. It would be criminal injustice to deny the vote to women after the sacrifices they have made, and are making. I marvel at the patient sacrifice and suffering of the women of my class, who have had their male relatives torn from them, whose homes have been broken up, and who are performing toil and drudgery under conditions which could not have been conceived in pre-War days. Surely they are entitled to the vote?

No effort should be spared to make the Registration Bill an Adult Suffrage Bill. Meetings, deputations, petitions to Members of Parliament, a strong propagandist agitation ought to be arranged for and vigorously carried on. Only it must be done at once. TOM QUELCH.

The following letter has been addressed to Mr. Asquith by Mrs. Ayrton Gould:—

27 Chancery Lane, W.C.

Sir,—We desire to ascertain the intention of the Government with regard to the inclusion of the enfranchisement of women in the Bill that must shortly be introduced—as the Government has admitted—to deal with the Parliamentary Register.

All parties are apparently in agreement in maintaining that no revision can be effective which does not by its proposals bring in numbers of fresh voters. We wish most urgently to represent to you that if statutory limitations as to time or other franchise qualifications are held to come within the scope of the Registration Scheme now under consideration of the Government, so also may statutory limitations as to sex come within the scope of this measure. We would respectfully urge this consideration upon you, as revealing a welcome opportunity to include the enfranchisement of women in the forthcoming legislation to deal with the Register.

But if the Government, in spite of these representations, should take the view that women cannot be enfranchised under a Registration Act, or by Order in Council, or by other means taken to deal with the Register as it stands—then we urge that the Government shall substitute a Franchise Bill, by which under no contingency will women's long overdue claims be disregarded.

Since, Sir, we are bound to anticipate any objections that may be advanced against this proposal, we wish to reply to the argument that the proposed Bill to reform the Register is an emergency measure to facilitate Parliamentary election during the War. We submit to your consideration the fact that even emergency Registration reforms will hold good after the War. And we urge you to consider the further fact that there is no emergency more pressing than the political helplessness of women in view of the present industrial conditions, rendered more difficult than ever by the circumstances of the War.

Both on political and on human grounds we press this course upon you. You have yourself on a former occasion expressed the opinion that Woman Suffrage suffered politically from being a non-party question. This, Sir, now becomes a cogent reason for settling it during the existence of a Coalition Cabinet. Further, if some precedent would seem to be required for enfranchising women during a war, we have it in our own Dominions, where, both in Alberta and Saskatchewan, women have been given the vote this year. In Denmark also, which, though not a belligerent country, is very seriously affected by the war, national unity was secured last year by the complete enfranchisement of women. . . . . .

We are, yours faithfully,

(Signed) Therese Muir Mackenzie, H. W. Massingham, Florence Fenwick Miller, Henry W. Nevinson, Frederick Whelen, Ben Turner, Winifred Holiday, Herbert H. Elvin, W. C. Robinson, Evelyn Sharp, Muriel De La Warr, Ruth Cavendish Bentinck, Anne Cobden Sanderson, Charlotte Despard, Vernon Hartshorn, Gertrude Forbes-Robertson, Robert Smillie, J. Spring Rice, M. Arncliffe Sennett, Robert Williams, M. A. St. Clair Stobart, John Masefield, John Perry, Ben Tillett.

HUMOROUS VERSES BY A C.O.

"Three planks, three blankets, soap, a fork and spoon—
Knife? God forbid his fair young life should be
Thus in his keeping: but, a special boon,
We lend him one to cut the bread for tea:
Boot polish, tooth paste, towel and brushes three—
These and four walls: yea, these shall be the whole
Of his possessions." But they left to me
The grace unforfeit of a living soul.

I must confess my neighbour's endless tune
Gets on my nerves, "The Red Flag" though it be:
I sometimes wish he'd spend the afternoon
In peaceful dozing, till at ten past three,
The voice and vision of the "R.M.P."
Calls us to quit this rather dismal hole,
And take a walk—to cherish tenderly
The grace unforfeit of a living soul.

I'm rather glad it will be bed time soon:
The days pass rather uneventfully.
They say 'tis Whitsun Monday, 12th of June:
It may be so—for all that I can see
It might as well be Christmas. Still, perhaps we
Will move to-morrow nearer to the goal:
Wandsworth, or wheresoever it may be—
The grace unforfeit of a living soul.

Architect artless, whosoe'er you be,
That planned this guard-room, choose another rôle.
You must confess you failed, in leaving me
The grace unforfeit of a living soul.

ALAN MCDOUGALL.

THE WOMAN'S
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Editor: SYLVIA PANKHURST.

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All business communications should be sent to the MANAGER, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

Vol. III. No. 13 Sat., June 24th, 1916

Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to Vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service?

QUESTIONS OF THE HOUR

WAR PRICES.

WE HAVE long called on the Government to appoint a Committee to keep down the cost of living. Indeed, so long ago as September, 1914, a deputation of East London women members of our Federation waited upon Mr. Runciman, and urged him to take this step.

Now, at last, the President of the Board of Trade has appointed a Committee, but it is not the Committee we want. We asked Mr. Runciman to appoint a Committee consisting of one-third working-class women housekeepers, one-third trade union representatives of the trades concerned, one-third experts and traders. On Mr. Runciman's Committee not one representative of the main body of buyers in this country—the working women housekeepers—is to be found, though it is so essentially important that these women should be represented that we should almost have been justified in claiming for them a representation, not of one-third, but of two-thirds. There is but one woman on the Committee, Mrs. Pember Reeves. We welcome her appointment, because she has undoubtedly taken an interest in the position of the down-trodden woman who has to maintain a household on "round about a pound a week," but it is ludicrous to suggest that her appointment can in any way satisfy the claim to representation of the vast body of working-class housekeepers. We welcome also the appointment of Mr. W. C. Anderson, who, ever since War broke out, has been agitating in Parliament against the callous *laisser faire* policy of the Government, which has enabled the capitalists to use the War as a means of exploiting the people. The Committee contains, we note, but two Labour representatives, although the working class is immensely larger than any other, and the working class is the class which suffers most from high prices.

But probably the most serious defect in Mr. Runciman's Committee will turn out to be its lack of power. Its instructions are to:

"Investigate the principal causes which have led to the increase of prices of commodities of general consumption since the beginning of the War, and to recommend such steps, if any, with a view to ameliorating the situation as appear practicable and expedient, having regard to the necessity of maintaining adequate supplies."

That phrase, "to recommend such steps, if any, as appear practicable and expedient," is decidedly unpropitious. In the modern political history of this country too many Committees have sat to consider and report, and have found themselves powerless, either to take action on their own account, or to enforce action upon the Government. When our Federation's deputation of working women housekeepers waited on Mr. Runciman, its demand was that the Government should take control of the supply of food and other necessaries, and that it should fix both the wholesale and retail prices and profits, so that the present capitalists would become virtually managers for the nation. The deputation also urged the progressive nationalisation of food, fuel, and shipping, thus paving the way for the ultimate complete Socialisation of the means of life, which is necessary for the welfare of the whole community, whether in peace or war. This work, it was urged, should be done under the direction of the Committee above indicated.

Mr. Runciman considered the W.S.F. suggestions exceedingly revolutionary, but his own tinkering methods have conspicuously failed to protect our population from the rising tide of privation which is causing serious misery to working-class mothers. In 1904 the Board of Trade compiled what it held to be a typical working-class budget, for mother, father, and four children, based on 1,944 actual budgets. The family food allowance in this Board of Trade budget was £1 2s. 6d.; the same quantity of food estimated for in that budget now costs £2 0s. 6d., according to the Board of Trade's own figures. Every housewife knows that even at the higher rates the quality of food that she buys to-day is inferior.

Here is a price list sent us by an East London woman:—

PRICES.

	Before the War.	Now.
Tea, per lb.	1s. 4d.	2s. 2d.
Sugar, per lb.	1½d.	5d.
Margarine, per lb.	5d.	7d.
Butter, per lb.	1s.	1s. 6d.
Bacon, per lb.	8d.	1s. 2d.
Milk, per quart	4d.	5d. & 6d.
Tnd. Milk (Double Cross Brand)	3½d.	7½d.
Cheese, per lb.	6d. or 7d.	1s. 2d.
Ham, per lb.	1s. 2d.	2s. or 2s. 6d.
Brawn, per lb.	5d.	10d.
Corned Beef, per lb.	6d.	1s.
Bread, per quartern	4½d.	8d.
Dripping, per lb.	4d.	7d. & 8d.
Jam, per lb.	2½d.	6d.
Golden Syrup, per 2 lb. tin	5½d.	10½d.
Wild Rabbit, per lb.	3½d.	7½d.
Pieces of Meat for Boiling, per lb.	3d. & 4d.	8d.
Potatoes, per 5 lbs.	2d.	7½d., or per lb., 2d.

Dried Cereals, beans, peas, lentils, etc., have doubled in price, and in some cases nearly trebled.

This woman adds that when mothers take their children out for a day's holiday they cannot buy them lemonade or ginger-beer as formerly, as these have increased in price from 1d. a pint to 3d. a pint, so the children have to suffer for this. Every increase means that the children of the poor must suffer.

The present extortionate price of milk will add to the infant death rate as surely as day follows night.

We urge the Committee that Mr. Runciman has appointed to bring in a strong report, and to insist on the necessity for taking drastic measures to prevent the starvation of the people. But we know that without pressure from the outside no Committee of this kind can do very much. Will the pressure be forthcoming? Mothers and housekeepers, that very largely depends on you, although because you are voteless, you are obliged to work more actively than other people to secure any attention. Why has only one woman been put on this Committee? Because women have got no vote.

THE CONSCRIPTION OF WOMEN'S LABOUR.

THE Munitions Act has created a rigid system of indentured labour, which only differs from industrial conscription in that workers do not come under its operations until they have entered a particular form of employment. Women cannot, as yet, be forced to leave their homes or other occupations to undertake munition work whether they will or no. But for men of military age industrial conscription virtually exists already, because they are now only permitted to take part in any form of industry by express permission of the military service tribunals. We have given frequent warning of the danger of industrial conscription for women. A further step in this direction will result from the Admiralty's decision to introduce into the Royal Dockyards "dilution of labour, including the services of women, on similar conditions to those established by the Ministry of Munitions for controlled establishments." No doubt, this system will be extended shortly to the entire shipbuilding industry.

The provisions of the Munitions Act have proved most injurious to the workers. In spite of the establishment of the Health of Munition Workers' Committee, men and women are still obliged to work scandalously long hours, not only by the economic pressure with which other workers have to contend, but by the punitive powers conferred on the Government and their employees by the Munitions Act. So inhumanly has the pressure been exerted in many cases that the aim of increased production has itself been defeated, because the health and energy of the workers have been wantonly destroyed.

When the War rise in the cost of living first became a serious menace to the workers, Mr. Runciman stated that the proper way to meet the rise in food prices was by demanding increased wages, but under the Munitions Act wages cannot be raised except by Government sanction. Many articles have appeared in the capitalist Press declaring that the munition workers, and especially the women, are earning enormous wages; whilst Mr. Lloyd George, as Minister of Munitions, has made many promises that women's labour shall not be sweated or used to depress men's rates of pay. Nevertheless, a long-continued agitation has only served to wring from the Ministry a minimum wage of £1 a week for women munitioneers employed in doing men's work. This low minimum is only obtainable where a strong trade union organisation is on the spot, and not always then, for, even on the Clyde, Sir William Beardmore, when David Kirkwood was deported, found it necessary to hand an extra 5s. a week to his women workers to make their wage up to the statutory minimum. The £1 a week minimum is too low, because the man unskilled labourer in the munition shops does not get less than 25s. But it must be clearly understood that the £1 a week only applies to a minority of the women in the munition shops. In the Manchester area, for instance,, at one of the largest munition firms, Hans Reynold, only 12 per cent. of the women employed could actually claim that they were doing precisely the same work that some man had done before. A large proportion of the women in the Manchester area have been getting a wage of 10s. a week, and only earning from 12s. to 14s. a week by working overtime. They have brought this fact to the notice of the Munitions Tribunals repeatedly without result.

The Workers' Union considered that it had scored a great triumph when it secured a minimum of 18s. a week for women over 21 in this area a short time ago—yet 18s. is worth only about as much as 11s. was before the War!

What has happened in the munition workshops should awaken the men engaged in the shipbuilding trades to the necessity of insisting that not a single woman shall enter the industry until the standard rate of wages, whether for time or piece work, is guaranteed to her. There ought to be no question of hesitation in this matter, especially as the trade unions that have been concerned in the munition shops are again concerned in the dockyard scheme of dilution. We await with anxiety the result of the impending innovations.

THE TRADE WAR.

OUR parents knew more of that cruel form of persecution called the boycott than do we of this generation. Ireland was the land of its christening, but it flourished very powerfully in England as the Free Thinkers, the Socialists, and other pioneers found by their inability to obtain employment, the ruin of their businesses, and other hardships. The penal laws against persons of any particular creed or race, which from time to time have disgraced the statute books of all the so-called civilised nations, are born of the same evil spirit which organises, usually by means of the Press, a privately-managed boycott.

Future generations, looking backward, with vision unclouded by War fever, will regard this month's Paris Conference of the Allies as a blot on European history, because its proposals constitute the setting up of a huge boycott. As measures for the War period, it is suggested that subjects of the Allies and persons resident in Allied countries shall be prohibited from carrying on trade with inhabitants of enemy countries, whatever their nationality, with enemy subjects, wherever resident, and with persons, firms, and companies whose business is either controlled wholly or partially by enemy subjects, or *is subject to enemy influence, and whose names are included in a special list.* This last provision is especially dangerous. When the Defence of the Realm Act was introduced, the Government stated that it was to be used to prevent espionage and the leakage of military secrets, and in case the country should be invaded. But the Defence of the Realm Act has been chiefly used against pacifists, opponents of conscription, and those who have been striving to protect the social and

economic position of the working class. Is this boycott by the Government also to be used against those who have dared to express opinions which do not coincide with those of capitalist Jingoes?

It appears that undoubtedly it is to be used to prevent trade with any enemy subjects who may have escaped internment and may still be engaged in business in this or any other Allied country. But how is it intended that such people shall live?

Even, after the War ends, in the "Transitory Measures" for the reconstruction period it is proposed that commercial treaties between Allied and enemy Powers shall be broken—honesty evidently being held to be an out-of-date fad! Barriers are to be erected against enemy goods, and it is proposed that the Allies shall devise measures for preventing enemy subjects from carrying on in their territories "industries which concern national defence or economic independence."

If the Allied Conference had declared that no private individual or company shall manufacture munitions of warfare, and that this shall be done only by the State, it would have done something to justify its existence, for the system which incites private armament rings to agitate for war in order that they may grow rich out of the slaughter of the peoples, constitutes a terrible menace to world peace. But the Allied Conference evidently possessed no clarity of vision, and was blinded by War fever.

The suggestions put forward as "Permanent Measures" are vaguely worded, but undoubtedly foreshadow a trade War.

THE *TIMES* AND INDIAN HOME RULE.

THE *Times* has complained that a circular issued by the Home Rule for India League voices "a mischievous movement." So angry is the *Times* that it wishes the League to "receive official attention," or, in other words, that the Defence of the Realm Act or some other power should silence those who dare to suggest self-government for India. We sympathise most deeply with the people of India in their desire to fashion the laws and conditions under which they live. We believe in Human Suffrage for the men and women of India as for the men and women of Britain and other lands. But we regret that the circular in question appears to us, at least, to attempt to appease one prejudice by playing upon another. The Jingo Imperialist regards the Indian contemptuously as a "Native," to be used as the sternly-dominated slave of those whose gilded youth was spent in the English Universities. But the Jingo Imperialist, whether he speaks English, French, or German, regards the Indian no more disdainfully than the Persians, the Moors, or any others whom it is possible to crush, and the Jingo Imperialist has not a whit more tenderness for the working classes of his own nationality than for those who belong to another race.

We are unable to reconcile the idea of an Empire built on "an unshakeable foundation of mutual trust and affection," to which the circular refers, with the League's appeal for "a powerful armed nation at our call, a force so great that it might well be that no Power would have dared to break the peace against us."

We would not drag the Indian peasant into warfare, we would not aid in the building up of more armed force, of which the world of late has seen too much indeed. We weary of the thought of this appalling bloodshed, and we would have war and its implements pass with all haste into the Limbo of forgotten things.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

A Government Bill, which grants additional powers to the Home Office, enables the Home Secretary to require "reasonable and practical welfare provisions for women in other industries than munitions."

We should like to see a strong move made in this direction, but having regard to the fact that the women munitioneers are working scandalously long hours we regard this new announcement with much suspicion.

WOMEN VOTERS

The town of Fellsmere, St. Lucie County, Florida, is the first municipality in the conservative Southern States of the U.S.A., to grant women the municipal vote. Fellsmere is a new town, with a population of 1200, where the Referendum and Recall have also been introduced.

The clause enfranchising women states that every registered individual, man or woman voter shall have the right to vote in the Election or Recall of councillors at every general or special election held under this administration.

Mr. Wallace Sherwood, secretary of the Town Council, says:—"The clause in our administration granting votes to women has been a greater advertisement than anything else, and has made us famous all over the country."

GET THE PEACE MEMORIAL SIGNED!

That the undersigned urge H.M. Government to seek the earliest opportunity of promoting negotiations with the object of securing a just and lasting peace.

A Prisoner of War (continued from front page).

pleased that I had the sweets to give. But the other passengers had "patriotic" feelings, and they asked: "How can you look with charity on these cattle? Do you not know how they behaved in Galicia?"

I said: "This poor man is a victim of War like too many others. He has had nothing to do with making the War."

The German guards took my part, saying: "Yes, this lady is right; this man is not guilty: our men must go to the War, too, whether they will or no."

At the next station, I bought for my Russian prisoner some hot sausages, and at the following station I was arrested and charged as a spy. I was taken to Munich and put in a small cell. Five times I was searched by the police. I cannot bear to describe this experience; I had not thought it possible that a woman could be treated as I was in a civilised country.

The authorities informed themselves of all that I had done during the two days I had been in Germany, and had found out that I had once before given chocolate to prisoners. Their rule is that whoever gives anything whatsoever to a prisoner is guilty of an offence and liable to imprisonment for from one day to one year. It is stated that ignorance will not be taken as an excuse.

During my captivity, I often told the German soldiers that they had been deceived by the Government, and that they have only one foe—Capitalism. None of the soldiers repeated what I said to the authorities, or I should not have been set free. A terrorist Government is now in power in Germany. I wonder how long the people will endure it.

After three weeks' imprisonment, I was tried in Bavaria. I was brought before the Court with two other "criminals." Several weeping friends were there, the counsel in his robes, and six witnesses, and all because of a hot sausage!

I was asked: "Why did you come here? Why did you wish to see military prisoners? Why did you give Russian prisoners chocolate?" and so on.

I explained that I was a friend of all prisoners, and that as a staunch anti-militarist I would never be a spy.

At last I was allowed to go free, as I had been three weeks on remand. I gladly returned to Switzerland, where one is allowed to think aloud.

I shall never forget the innocent children whom I saw starving in Germany. I know that there are good people in all lands. I know that the Socialists have allowed themselves to be betrayed, and are now bleeding on a capitalist battlefield. I know, too, that every War must be paid for by the workers.

IRELAND

In a letter to the *Times*, Lord Courtney of Penwith discusses the Irish Question, and advises the Government to adopt the proportional system of representation with regard to Ireland. "The fundamental vice of Irish government in the past has been its dissociation from Irish popular feeling." To avoid that error being repeated, every party and class should be represented in the new Government. Lord Courtney, in making this excellent suggestion, unfortunately omits *women!* In Ireland, a purely democratic Government, including men and women, must form the basis of whatever system the British Government forces on that country. No popular measure can be resorted to without appealing to the people who, since the introduction of martial law, are more suspicious than ever of English manufacture in the shape of laws.

* * *

The Irish Women's Franchise League has sent to the Government a resolution declaring:—

"That no reform of Irish Government can be considered acceptable or permanent by Irish Suffragists which does not include votes for Irish women on the same terms as Irish men, and in the event of Ulster, or a portion of it, being excluded from any Home Rule scheme, we demand that the women of Ulster (or of any such excluded portion) should be consulted equally with the men as to the form of government which they prefer, and demanding that women shall be directly represented on any Advisory Council or other political machinery which may be set up in Ireland."

W.S.F. "AT HOMES"

CHANDOS HALL, 21a Maiden Lane, Strand, W.C.

THURSDAY, JUNE 29th, 3.30 p.m.

"A Journey from Australia to Munich during the War"
By Miss A. RUEGG, of Switzerland, who was imprisoned in India and Germany.

Mr. R. L. OUTHWAITE, M.P., "Equality of Sacrifice"

Chair: Miss SYLVIA PANKHURST

Dear Editor,—The first national demonstration of Dutch women for votes is to take place in Amsterdam next Sunday, June 18th. Special trains are to run from all parts of the country, and a great crowd is expected. The women are very hopeful of the results of the procession, as some of us were in London before our big demonstrations. Recently over 400 women marched to the Pinnenhof to protest against the exorbitant prices of food. Four women were admitted. A similar protest in Amsterdam has had some effect, and certain foodstuffs are to be lowered in price.—Yours, etc.,

MARGARET PEACOCK.

THE MURDER OF SHEEHY SKEFFINGTON

Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington's solicitor has written to Mr. Asquith as follows:—

31 Parliament Street, Dublin.

Sir,—As solicitor for Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington—for whose husband's murder on April 26th Captain Bowen Colthurst has been adjudged guilty—I have the honour to inquire when the promised Public Inquiry will be held?

My client is profoundly dissatisfied with the limited information afforded at the Court Martial when the insanity of the accused was suggested.

While she abhors the idea that fresh blood should be spilt, my client is equally resolute that the truth should be known, so that the people of the three Kingdoms may determine whether the same measure of justice has been meted out to all parties affected by the rebellion.

That there were circumstances giving rise to anxiety connected with the recent trial will be evident from the following facts:—

Lieutenant Wylie, K.C., who had prosecuted to conviction other men recently executed, was released from this Court Martial, and an English counsel, not fully acquainted with the facts or imperfectly instructed, was appointed. Although no plea of inability to plead was entered for the accused, the question of his sanity was raised from the outset. Yet the manner in which he effected the arrest of the other murdered men (Messrs. Dickson and McIntyre) was not proved, nor the process by which he selected them for execution from amongst eight prisoners. Nevertheless, it was within the knowledge of the Military Authorities that Messrs. Dickson and McIntyre were taken into custody on the premises of Alderman James Kelly, ex-High Sheriff, by the accused under the idea that the shop belonged to Alderman Thomas Kelly, a person of wholly different politics. They also knew that Colthurst threw a bomb into the premises and subsequently "planted" Mr. Dickson's trunk thereon, to give rise to the suspicion that Mr. Dickson had been harboured by Alderman James Kelly, who was also lodged in Portobello Barracks. Nor was the Court informed that two sisters of Mrs. Skeffington, viz., Mrs. Kettle (wife of Lieutenant Kettle) and Mrs. Culhane (widow of a public official lately deceased), called at Portobello Barracks on Friday, April 28th, after the murders, and on inquiring for their brother, Lieutenant Sheehy, were put under arrest and brought before Captain Colthurst, and that he denied all knowledge of Mr. Skeffington, and was perfectly calm and collected in his demeanour and falsehoods. Similarly, the tribunal was not made aware that on the evening after his examination of these ladies Captain Colthurst ordered a search of Mrs. Skeffington's house; that his soldiers first fired into her dwelling, and then, producing a key taken from the body of the murdered man, opened his locked room and removed documents to try to furnish the accused with *ex post facto* justification for his crime. The second raid on the widow's house by Colthurst's orders on the following Monday, as well as the fact that one of the soldiers who took part in it was the sergeant left in charge of Dickson's trunk at Alderman James Kelly's, was also left unmentioned. There was an equally significant silence as to the protests of the murdered men on the morning of their execution, and as to the accused's refusal of spiritual solace to them in their last moments. The Court Martial were likewise unaware that Captain Colthurst was allowed to remain at large by his superiors until May 6th—nearly a fortnight after the murders—while the non-production of Major Sir Francis Vane, his senior officer, disabled it from learning that on May 1st (a week after the murders), the accused was promoted to the charge of the Defences of Portobello Barracks. His conduct in shooting the lad Coade, on Rathmines Road, previous to the three murders, was not introduced, although Coade's father immediately lodged information at the Barracks. None of the soldiers who formed the firing party was called to speak as to the nature of the accused's commands and demeanour, or explain how Mr. Skeffington came to be taken from a locked cell without authority. The added tragedy which led to a second squad of soldiers being called out to fire at the prostrate body of Mr. Skeffington would not have become known (although proved at the private preliminary inquiry) but for the candour of the noble President of the Tribunal, Lord Cheylesmore. As for the attempt to fasten complicity with the rebellion on Mr. Skeffington, by the production of a document published previously by Alderman Thomas Kelly (which deceased, as a journalist, kept in his house), it stands in strange contrast with the silence preserved concerning the innocence of the other slaughtered men, and the Court was not even told who or what they were. The admission of this document, after Adjutant Morgan, who produced it, had sworn that it was not found on Mr. Skeffington, may have been due to inadvertence, but the cunning of the untruthful endorsement on it by the accused to the effect that it was found on the body seemed to call for observation on the issue of sanity as corroboration of the fact that Captain Colthurst, from the date when he knew the murders were discovered, was engaged in the manufacture of evidence to palliate his guilt.

I therefore have to ask that in view of the promised Inquiry you will make arrangements with the Military Authorities to have in attendance thereat, in addition to the witnesses called on behalf of the prosecution at the late Court Martial, the following persons:—

1. The soldiers under command of Lieutenant Wilson when Mr. Skeffington was marched out of his cell into the street to serve as a hostage.
2. The soldiers who composed the first and second firing parties.
3. Lieutenant-Colonel McCammond, who was in command of the Royal Irish Rifles.
4. Major Sir Francis Vane, second in command.
5. Lieutenant Tooley and Lieutenant Gibbon.
6. The officers and soldiers who were sent after the murder to search Mrs. Skeffington's residence on two occasions, especially Sergeant Claxton.

Of course, the names, regiment, and regimental numbers of all the proposed witnesses should be supplied to me some days before the Inquiry, unless the Government undertakes to call them for examination.

I should also be furnished the Notes of the preliminary Inquiry which the Court Martial were supplied with. In addition, I request that all documents, etc., taken from the person of Mr. Skeffington, or seized at his residence, should be returned, and if this is refused that copies should be supplied to me.

I should likewise be afforded an opportunity of examining and taking copies of any reports or entries dealing with the circumstances attending the arrest or execution of Mr. Skeffington or the searches at his residence.

I shall feel obliged by an intimation of an early decision.

Your obedient servant,

HENRY LEMASS.

W. S. F. PUBLIC MEETING

124 BARKING ROAD, CANNING TOWN

THURSDAY, JUNE 29th, at 8 p.m.

MISS A. RUEGG (a Swiss Worker) on

ADMISSION FREE **COLLECTION**

THE
WORKERS' SUFFRAGE FEDERATION

To secure Human Suffrage, namely, a Vote for every Woman and Man of full age, and to win Social and Economic Freedom for the People.

Entrance Fee ... ... *1d.*
Subscription... ... ... *1d. a month*

LONDON MEETINGS.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23rd.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Stephen
Beckton Road, 7 p.m., Mrs. Walker.
SATURDAY, JUNE 24th.
Philpot Street, Commercial Road, 3 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Grundy Street, 3.30 p.m., Mrs. Davies, Miss Stephen.
Mare Street and Well Street, 3.30 p.m., Miss Price.
SUNDAY, JUNE, 25th.
Osborne Street, 11.30 a.m., Miss Manicom.
Ilford (outside Station), 11.30 a.m., Joint Meeting with N.C.F., Miss Stephen.
Morning Lane and Mare Street, 12 (noon), Mrs. Bouvier.
Victoria Park, 3 p.m., Mr. Lane, Miss Stephen.
MONDAY, JUNE 26th.
Morpeth Street, 1 p.m., Miss Price.
Green Gate, 7 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
Leabia Road, 7 p.m., Mr. Lane, Miss Stephen.
TUESDAY, JUNE 27th.
Chrisp Street, 7 p.m., Miss Feek, Miss Stephen.
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 28th.
53 St. Leonard's Street, 7 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
THURSDAY, JUNE 29th.
40 Glaskin Road, 3.30 p.m., Miss Stephen.
120 Barking Road, 8 p.m., Miss A. Ruegg.
FRIDAY, JUNE 30th.
Philpot Street, Commercial Road, 1 p.m., Miss Price.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3.30 p.m., Miss Smyth, Miss Stephen.
Beckton Road, 7 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
SATURDAY, JULY 1st.
Well Street and Morning Lane, 11 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier, Miss Stephen.
Grundy Street, 3.30 p.m., Miss Price, Miss Stephen.
SUNDAY, JULY 2nd.
Hyde Park, 5 p.m., Mrs. Davies, Mrs. Walker.
Hampstead, Flagstaff, 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Drake.

W.S.F. SPEAKERS ON OTHER PLATFORMS.

I.L.P., Wales—Mrs. Drake.
N.C.F., Barking—Miss Price.
N.C.A.C., Walthamstow—Miss Price.
Adult School, Walthamstow—Mrs. Bouvier.

34s. collected at W.S.F. meeting in Hampstead, Sunday, June 18th. Speakers: Mrs. Walker and Miss Rickards.

Chandos Hall At Homes in July, at 8 p.m. Thursday, July 13th, 20th, and 27th.

W.S.F. BRANCHES.

LONDON.

Bow, 400 Old Ford Road. Sec. *pro tem.*, Miss Price.

DREADNOUGHT sales week ending June 17th, 885. Miss O'Brien, 240; Miss Price, 194; Mrs. Holloway, 181; Mrs. Crabb, 103; Miss Smyth, 21. General sales, 150.

POPLAR, 20 Railway Street. Secretary, Miss Stephen.

DREADNOUGHT sales for week, 110—Mrs. Shiette, 67; Mrs. Bertram, 7; Mrs. Neuss, 6; Mrs. Rounce, 5. General sales, 85.

Collections.—Miss E. Lagsding, 7s., and Miss T. Barker, 1s. 9d., at Green's Yard; Miss D. Morley and Miss K. Lagsding, 12s. 11d., at Cubitt Town. Other collections, 2s.

Members might make a point of coming to branch meeting on Tuesday, June 27th, at 8 p.m., when important business, including the election of a deputation to our local M.P., will come up for consideration. Let every Poplar member endeavour to make our meetings known to their friends so that our numbers may increase by leaps and bounds. The Friday afternoon meetings have been falling off lately. We shall always be pleased to welcome mothers to this meeting.

Mr. Scurr is very kindly taking a class on general knowledge on Wednesday evenings at 8 o'clock. Three of these lectures have been given on the development of Governments, beginning with the earliest forms and leading up to modern Parliaments. All members and friends are welcome.

On Sundays rambles are being arranged. On Tuesday evenings Miss Bailey will take a dancing and drill class for the children.

BROMLEY, 53 St. Leonard's Street. Hon. Secs., Mrs. Lansbury, Mrs. Wood. DREADNOUGHT sales, 93.

HACKNEY, 40 Glaskin Road, Well Street. Secretary, Miss Stephen.
DREADNOUGHT sales, 70.

LEYTON. Hon. Sec., Mrs. C. Hart, 73 Calderon Road.

SOUTH-WEST HAM. Hon. Sec., Mrs. Daisy Parsons, 94 Ravenscroft Road.

ST. PANCRAS. Mrs. Redgrove, 191 Camden Road, N.W.

PROVINCIAL.

BIRMINGHAM. Hon. Sec., Miss A. F. Boden, 10 Sandhurst Road, Moseley.

LEEDS. Hon. Sec., Mrs. Hunter, 7 Sugdenfold, Armley.

WORKINGTON. Hon. Sec., Mr. Martin Howard, 48 Beeby Street.

NEWCASTLE. Hon. Sec., J. Lipman, Esq., 256 Stanton Street.

NOTTINGHAM. Miss Lynch, Organiser *pro tem.*, c/o Mrs. Walton, 100 Burton Road, Carlton. DREADNOUGHT sales, 188; Miss Lynch, 174; Godfrey, 14. Collections, 19s. 2½d.; per Mrs. Pilkington, 3s.; per Mrs. Vanham, 3s. 2½d.

DURHAM. District General Hon. Sec., *pro tem.*, Miss C. Ellis, Dundalk House, Neville's Cross.

FERRYHILL. Hon. Sec., Miss Ruby Stoddart, 12 Hackworth Street, Dean Bank, Ferryhill.

CHOPWELL. Hon. Sec., V. M. Hardy, Esq., Communist Club, Derwent Street, Chopwell.

MEDOMSLEY. Hon. Sec., Tom Orr, Esq., 6 Derwent Cottages, Medomsley, Durham.

CHESTER-LE-STREET. Hon. Sec., Miss Faulkner, 14 Hilda Terrace, South Pelaw, Chester-le-Street, Durham.

CORNSAY AND QUEBEC. Hon. Sec., Mrs. Alice Thompson, 8 East Street, Hampsteels Colly, Quebec, Durham.

SOUTHAMPTON. Hon. Sec., Miss Helsby, La Plata, Manor Farm Road, Bittem Park.

BRYNMAWR AND NANTYGLO. Hon. Sec., Mrs. Hayward, Coedcae, Garn Fach, Nantyglo.

CWMTILLERY. Hon. Sec., Miss Hammond, Hillcote, Woodland Road, Cwmtillery.

PONTARDAWE. Hon. Sec., Mr. Griff. Davies, Bridge House, Pontardawe.

Report of Children's Festival next week.

How "Our Slum Baby" can be "Adequately Fed"

With the Child so vital an asset to the State as it is to-day, the care of Infants, and the overcoming of the serious problem of Infantile Mortality assume a greater significance than before. This being so, the following extract from "The Nursing Times" must prove of much interest to the many able men and women—leaders of thought and welfare work—who are keenly aware of the vital necessity of raising aid in their splendid work. The extract tells of the "ideal diet" for babies, and has special the Nation's babies, and who welcome every reference to the constituents of Glaxo and its purity:—

"It will be remembered that when diluted, as ordered, 1 to 8, the Glaxo milk contains as much fat as human milk, as well as the same proportions of protein and milk sugar, so that there is no necessity to add extra cream; and yet there will be no chance of rickets, which is nearly always the consequence of deficient fat in the diet.

"Glaxo provides an ideal diet for young human animals, and we are truly grateful. But infants are not merely animals, and nurses should lose no opportunity of impressing upon their patients the enormous importance of continuing for at least a few months, through the medium of their milk, the building up of the little one, who has so far been entirely dependent upon them. No cow-made product, however perfect, can possibly compete with the intensely individual nourishment which a mother alone has the power to produce. Her milk may have physical deficiencies—let her take Glaxo herself to overcome them, or use it for her child once or twice a day to counteract them—but its physical elements have such unique properties and far-reaching results that every ounce of it is definite value to the nation.

"As nurses, however, we have to take things as we find them, and when there is no possibility of the ideal food it is now the greatest comfort to feel that we are no longer dependent on the watery germ-laden contents of the basin on the counter in the general shop, but can procure a tin of 'Glaxo' and know that our slum baby will be as adequately fed as the motherless baby of a millionaire!"

The success of Glaxo in Municipal Movements is evidenced by the fact that during the last few years the Manchester School for Mothers has purchased 60,000 lb., Lincoln Health Department 25,000 lb., Rotherham Corporation 65,000 lb., Bradford Health Department 50,000 lb., and Sheffield Health Department, 132,000 lb.

This is because Glaxo is simply pure milk with extra cream and milk sugar; the water is driven off, leaving the dried powder, which is packed in a bag, and inserted in a sealed vessel. The Glaxo process makes the powder free from germs, and causes the curd to form into tiny particles, easy of digestion and resembling the Lact-albumen of breast milk. Glaxo has all the natural purity and sweetness of the milk, permanently retained at the source of supply, whilst the risk and dangers inseparable from the ordinary milk are eliminated.

Glaxo is specially packed and sold at a special rate to Official Bodies, Creches, Mothers' Welcomes, and Schools for Mothers.

The address of Glaxo is:—Dept. 52, 155 Great Portland Street, W.
Proprietors of Glaxo are:—Joseph Nathan & Co., Ltd., London & Wellington, N.Z.

13866

Deal with our Advertisers, for they help us.

EMILY WILDING DAVISON

On Saturday, June 10th, a memorial meeting was held at Morpeth in memory of Emily Wilding Davison. The meeting was presided over by the Rev. T. Wallace, Vicar of Jarrow, and the speakers were Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett and Miss Bennett. There was a very large attendance.

MISS ALICE MACLENAN

We regret to announce that Miss Alice Maclenan (organiser of the Workers' Union), who is a member of the W.S.F., and to whom the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT is greatly indebted for for her Trade Union Notes, was seriously injured in a fire which took place in the Lime Street Hotel, Liverpool, on Sunday.

The Workers' Union some weeks ago secured the establishment of a minimum rate of 18s. a week for women of 21 years and upwards in the Manchester Munitions Area. The Union tried for £1, but failed to secure it. This will seem surprising to those who believe that the Ministry of Munitions has established a minimum wage of £1 a week for women in munition factories. As a matter of fact, the £1 a week minimum applies only to women who are doing men's work, and as the work is now entirely rearranged it is often impossible to prove to the satisfaction of the authorities that the women are doing what men did before. All the women and girls in the engineering trade in the Manchester area who cannot secure the £1 a week are entitled to claim the 18s. minimum secured by the Workers' Union, and many are doing so who were getting no more than 10s. or 12s. a week before. The Workers' Union also secured a wage scale for girls from 14 years and upwards, and the same overtime rates for women as for men, *i.e.*, time and a quarter first two hours and time and a half after. Miss Alice Maclenan, who kindly sends us Trade Union Notes, was one of the signatories to the agreement, and we understand that this is the first time in the Manchester engineering trade that a woman has occupied this position. Also that this is the first agreement in regard to women's wages secured in the Manchester engineering trade.

We are glad that the Workers' Union has been successful in securing an increase in the scandalously low wages paid to the women munitioneers in the Manchester area, but 18s. to-day is, after all, only equal to about 11s. before the War, and we recall in this connection Mr. Lloyd George's broken promises to pay to the women in munition shops a fair minimum wage!

As the result of agitation by the local branch of the National Federation of Women's Trade Unions, the workers in Messrs. Creed and Bille's Munitions Factory, Croydon, have secured a minimum wage of £1 a week for all the women employees.

The Shop Assistants' Union reports that the coming of the Summer Time Act has resulted in longer hours for many of its members.

Donations to be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Dr. Tchaykovsky, Langham House, Harrow, or Hon. Financial Secretary, Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.
All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

MOTHERS AND BABIES.

THE MOTHER'S ARMS,
438 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW.

Day nursery from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Doctor's consultation and baby-weighing, Mondays, 2.30 p.m. Mothers and babies can consult Nurse at any time.

20 RAILWAY STREET, POPLAR.
(opposite South Bromley Station).

Doctor's consultation and baby-weighing, Tuesdays, 3 p.m. Nurse may be seen at any time.

53 ST. LEONARD'S STREET, BROMLEY-BY-BOW.

Doctor's consultation and baby-weighing, Tuesdays, 2 p.m.

55 FIFE ROAD, CANNING TOWN.

Doctor's consultation and baby-weighing, Tuesdays, 4 p.m.

All mothers and children are welcome.

COST PRICE RESTAURANTS at 400 Old Ford Road, and 20 Railway Street. Dinners from 12 till 2 p.m. daily.

WANTS.

Subscriptions to the milk and food fund. Doctoring and nursing can help little if mothers and children are unable to obtain the nourishment that is ordered.

New laid eggs, barley, glaxo, virol, for invalids. Medicine bottles, clothing and shoes for adults and boys and girls of all ages.

For baby, four gowns, four barrows, two flannel bands, twelve napkins, three vests, and a cot blanket; for mother, two nightgowns, woollen shawl, three towels, two sheets, and a pair of pillow cases.

Growing plants and cut flowers for all our centres. We should be grateful to friends who would supply us regularly during the spring and summer. We also need vegetables and fruit.

More cupboards are needed at all our centres.

Nurse needs empty medicine bottles at her dispensary.

Health Talks to Mothers are held the first and third Fridays in the month at 3 p.m., at the Mothers' Arms.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED.

GENERAL FUND.—Mrs. Doring, 10s.; Tom Norris, Esq. (5s. monthly), 10s.; Miss L. Cutten (monthly), 5s.; Percy Hawkins, Esq., 5s.; G. Cohen, Esq., 2s.; Mrs. Glassman (1s. weekly), 2s.; Mrs. Ball, 1s. 5d.

"DREADNOUGHT" FUND.—Miss M. Gliksten, £2; Mr. Partridge, 6s.; Anon (Forest Gate), 1s. 5d.; per Mrs. Holloway, "Anon" (Barking), 1s.; "Anon" (Hampstead Heath), 1s.; Mr. Rout, 6d., per Mrs. Holloway.

MILK AND GENERAL DISTRESS.—Per Dr. Tchaykovsky, £7 16s.; Miss M. V. Yeoman (10s. weekly), £3; Mrs. Bevan, 15s.; Mrs. Richmond (5s. weekly), 10s.; Mrs. Heywood Bright (weekly), 5s.; Mrs. E. M. Morrison (monthly), 5s.; Rathmell Wilson, Esq., 5s.; A Well-Wisher, 4s.; West Adams, 3s.; Mr. and Mrs. Clark, per Miss Boden, 1s. 3d.; Mrs. Batt, per Mrs. Drake, 1s.; Mr. T. M. Rout, 6d.

COLLECTIONS.—Mrs. Holloway and Mrs. Walker (Hampstead Heath), £1 14s.; L.S.A. Toolroom, £1 13s. 3d.; Mrs. Drake (Pontardawe), £1 11s. 5d.; Miss Lynch, Carlton, Notts, 19s. 2½d. and 18s. 7d.; per Mrs. Drake (Glais), 15s. 6d.; Mrs. Crabb, 14s. 1½d.; Miss D. Morley and Miss K. Lagsding (Cubitt Town), 12s. 7d. and 12s. 11d.; Mrs. Drake (Ynystradulais), 11s. 6d.; Miss Porter (babies), 7s. 6d; Misses E. Lagsding and F. Grove, 7s.; Misses E. Lagsding and T. Barker, 8s. 9d.; (Green's Yard); General Meeting, 5s. 2d.; Miss E. K. Russell, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Bouvier (Adult School, Walthamstow), 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Drake (Barking), 2s. 3d.; Miss Stephen, 2s.; Miss Mary Carr (Osborne Street), 1s. 10d.; Mrs. Vine, 1s. 7d.; G. Lack, Esq. (B.S.P.), 8d.

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL.—Lady Margaret Sackville, 15s.; Lady Clare Annesley, 5s.; Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, 5s.; Countess Napier, 2s. 6d.; Miss Stephen, 2s. 6d.

FLOWERS FOR THE SHOOLS.—Mrs. Questier, Mrs. Sillett, Cyfarthfa Castle School, Miss Sinclair, Mrs. Walker, Mrs. Lamming, and G. Parkhouse, Esq.

CLOTHING.—Mrs. A. M. Burke, Mrs. G. Shergold, Mrs. Harri-Thring, Mrs. Oxley, and Mrs. Solly.

I am a discharged army pensioner, and send sixpence on behalf of the Babies' Milk Fund. I take the WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT, a paper which is out to assist the workers. I am also a member of the Northern Division "Herald" League. I was kidded that this is a war for freedom, and have found out it is not, after serving in France with the British Expeditionary Force as a labourer in khaki, who is a rebel now.—Yours truly,

T. M. ROUT.

"My husband for upwards of 21 years worked for the Corporation of West Ham and never lost one day for illness or otherwise. He was not doing anything towards bringing this War about, but after it broke out, and our eldest son had been mobilised for active service in the Territorials, my husband felt in his heart he could not stay at home without offering to do his share to protect the women, not only of England, but the whole Empire. He went in the first millions of volunteers. He does not profess to be religious, but he told me that in the midst of shot and shell and the horrors of the battlefield he could hear the voice of 'Thou shall not kill.' I am led to understand the German boys are always taught to hate the English with the bitterest of hate. If that is so, they are to be pitied, and the teachers to be blamed, in my opinion.

"My husband has been wounded twice, and has been suffering ever since. He has been in bed the last four months, and is now beginning to get about again. He is to have his discharge, but is not home yet. He knows perfectly well that he will not be able to work again as he did before, and he has returned to find the cost of everything we eat or drink is double what it was before the War.

"This new Conscription Act brings heartrending horror to every mother's heart to know that her sons, when they become 18 years of age, are to be trained to kill their fellow men. Thousands and thousands of lives can be destroyed, but munitions, *nothing*, can bring one single life back.

"Children would be better never born into such a world of shame and disgrace to civilisation.

"That is not God's Will, but the will of some on the earth; surely not the majority.

"A WORKING MAN'S WIFE.

We learn on good authority that Lieutenant-Colonel Brooke, of Wandsworth military prison, was dismissed on Saturday last for bad treatment of conscientious objectors.

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